To: R2 ER Notification List[R2_ER_Notification_List@epa.gov]
Cc: Kahn, Paul[Kahn.Paul@epa.gov]; Gregor, Margaret[Gregor.Margaret@epa.gov]; Lucarino, Kelli[Lucarino.Kelli@epa.gov]; Norrell, Neil[Norrell.Neil@epa.gov]; Daloia, James[daloia.james@epa.gov]; Mosher, Eric[Mosher.Eric@epa.gov]; DOnofrio, Cris[DOnofrio.Cris@epa.gov]; Garrison, Geoffrey[Garrison.Geoffrey@epa.gov]; R2 RRC[R2_RRC@epa.gov]; Eoc, Epahq[Eoc.Epahq@epa.gov]; Compton, Harry[Compton.Harry@epa.gov]; Kovak, Brian[Kovak.Brian@epa.gov]; Singhvi, Raj[Singhvi.Raj@epa.gov]; R2 ER Mgmt Notification List[R2_ER_Mgmt_Notification_List@epa.gov]; Rodriguez, Elias[Rodriguez.Elias@epa.gov]; Gorman, John[Gorman.John@epa.gov]; Moore, Audrey[Moore.Audrey@epa.gov]; Aber, Bruce[Aber.Bruce@epa.gov]; Doyle, James[Doyle.James@epa.gov]; Vaouli, Elena[Vaouli.Elena@epa.gov]; Glynn, Tara[Glynn.Tara@epa.gov]; Reddy, Aarti[Reddy.Aarti@epa.gov]; Greenberg, Marc[Greenberg.Marc@epa.gov]; Lieber, Thomas[Lieber.Thomas@epa.gov]; Simon, Paul[Simon.Paul@epa.gov]; Aber, Bruce[Aber.Bruce@epa.gov]; Shapiro, Naomi[Shapiro.Naomi@epa.gov]; Sawyer, William[Sawyer.William@epa.gov]; Mintzer, Michael[Mintzer.Michael@epa.gov]; Hick, Patricia[Hick.Patricia@epa.gov]; Schaaf, Eric[Schaaf.Eric@epa.gov]; Escobar, Leah[Escobar.Leah@epa.gov]
From: Jimenez, Christopher
Sent: Sat 3/28/2015 2:02:09 AM
Subject: Sirenusa Condo Methyl Bromide Release 3/27/15 Update

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3/27/15 Update on Sirenusa Condo Methyl Bromide Release, Cruz Bay, St. John

Today crews conducted sampling in Unit J lower at the Sirenusa Condo complex, the unit which was fumigated on March 18th (directly below the unit where the affected family stayed). This included three grab samples (with summa canisters) within the unit for VOC analysis including methyl bromide, wipe samples for pesticides and methyl bromide in five locations, 12-hour time-weighted average air samples for pesticides and methyl bromide (two indoor samples for each analysis), tap water samples for VOC and methyl bromide analysis, and real-time air monitoring. Interior real-time readings of total VOCs (including methyl bromide) ranged from three to four parts per million (ppm) above background levels and were sustained throughout the interior of the lower unit, compared to a maximum of 370 parts per billion (ppb) total VOCs initially detected in the upper unit on March 24th. Preliminary un-validated results of the grab samples collected from the upper unit on March 24th were received and indicated that methyl bromide had been present at approximately 1 ppm (equivalent to 1,000 ppb).

In addition, the REOC continued working with EPA ORC and Pesticides and Toxic Substances Branch to evaluate options for management of existing stocks of the fumigant, as well as the mechanisms for determining where the fumigant is currently stored, and how it has been utilized and/or stored in the past. Existing stocks have been identified at facilities on St. Thomas and St. Croix, consisting of one cylinder at each of two facilities. Staging locations for these cylinders and options for shipment to either proper disposal facilities or the original suppliers are being evaluated. The REOC staff also submitted a request to ATSDR for assistance in identifying any occupants which may have been exposed to methyl bromide due to fumigation in residential settings in the past.

Tomorrow, crews will complete all remaining sampling of Unit J lower, including collection of the 12-hour time-weighted average air samples as well as tap water samples for VOC and methyl bromide analysis. The samples will be shipped on Monday, March 30th for analysis.

R2 REOC remains the point of contact for all EPA's activities related to this incident.

Personnel on-site today included 2 OSCs, 1 ERT, 2 CID, 2 RST contractors and 2 SERAS contractors.

EPA is still working cooperatively with DPNR, the St. John Fire Department, the St. John Police Department, Terminex and the condo complex management company.

Christopher Jimenez, Deputy Regional Incident Coordinator

USEPA Region 2

2890 Woodbridge Avenue

Edison NJ 08837

(732) 906-6847 (office)

(732) 321-4425 (fax)